



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

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Acting Commissioner

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES – MAY 22, 2001

Members Present: Dr. Frank Briglia, Mr. Jesus Cepero, Dr. Frank Cunningham,
Ms. Carolyn Ferolito, Dr. Mary Kamienski, Dr. Alfred Sacchetti,
Mr. Daniel Sullivan, Dr. Thomas Whalen, Mr. Thomas Zarra

Members Absent: Ms. MaryEllen Brock, Dr. Martin Diamond, Dr. Anthony Greenberg,
Dr. Ernest Leva

NJDH&SS Staff: Dr. George DiFerdinando, Dr. John Brennan, Mr. William Duffy,
Ms. Nancy Kelly-Goodstein, Ms. Susan Way

Guests: Dr. Cheryl Ackerman, Ms. Stephanie Freitag, Mr. Michael Panté

Call to Order:

Ms. Carolyn Ferolito, vice chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:55 am. Dr. Leva was unable to join us today due to a death in his family.

Introductions:

Those in attendance introduced themselves to the group.

Minutes:

The minutes from the March 27, 2001 were reviewed. Dr. Kamienski noted that she was absent, but recorded as present for the March 27th meeting. With this amendment, the minutes were accepted.

New Business:

To accommodate our guests, Ms. Stephanie Freitag was asked to present her proposal before the remaining agenda items were discussed.

Attached you will find a copy of Ms. Freitag's presentation. In summary, Ms. Freitag would like to have every middle school student complete a cardiopulmonary resuscitation course prior to graduation to high school. Ms. Freitag became interested in this topic after assisting her mother, Dr. Cheryl Ackerman, study for her American Heart Association (AHA) Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) program.

The members present discussed with Ms. Freitag and Dr. Ackerman the following considerations:

- Having Ms. Freitag's idea implemented in her middle school as a model system,
- Contacting Ms. Linda Morse at the New Jersey Department of Education for inclusion of this topic in the health education curriculum,



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- Use of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) booklet entitled “Basic Emergency Lifesaving Skills (BELS),” for this project, and
- Importance of developing grassroots advocacy for this program.

Ms. Freitag would like the support of the EMSC Advisory Council in funding such a program.

The EMSC Advisory Council members present thanked Ms. Freitag and Dr. Ackerman for making the time to present this idea to us.

Chairperson’s Report:

Due to Dr. Leva’s unexpected absence, there was no report.

OEMS Report:

Membership: Ms. Susan Way reported that Dr. DiFerdinando was supportive of the concept of expanding the EMSC Advisory Council membership. Dr. George DiFerdinando mentioned that the Governor’s Appointment Office processes a tremendous volume of appointments, and that the addition of new members may take some time. There are still a number of reappointments outstanding. (Doctors Briglia and Whalen). With this being an election year, every effort should be made to facilitate the new and re-appointments. Distributed at this meeting was a copy of the by-laws with the recommended amendments, highlighted in green, to accommodate the new members. Discussion followed about the need to add a community hospital representative. The perspective of the hospital representative for implementing, for example, additional educational requirements for hospital personnel, may be invaluable. What may be easy for a tertiary care center or a children’s hospital to implement, may be next to impossible for a small community hospital to implement (without a sacrifice of some other services). The group then discussed the best way to gain this insight (add a representative from the New Jersey Hospital Association (NJHA); invite as a regular guest a NJHA representative, etc.) Involving the NJHA early in the process should allow for consensus prior on issues. An invited guest may not perceive their involvement with the EMSC Advisory Council with same sense of full membership. Dr. DiFerdinando suggested that we add a member at large to the EMSC Advisory Council. We could then ask the Department of Health and Senior Services to recommend an individual with the perspective we are seeking. The recommendation was then made to have Dr. Leva select a community hospital representative, and extend an invitation to attend our meetings. The hospital representative could then offer input as to how best to proceed. The other suggestion made was to ask a hospital representative to attend a committee meeting of the EMSC Advisory Council when discussing hospital related issues.

Ms. Way reported on the new national telephone number for poison centers (800-222-1222). The telephone system will then transfer callers to the appropriate poison center. The New Jersey toll-free number (800-POISON1) will remain operational indefinitely. The federal government is supporting poison centers nationally with stabilization grants. The press release kits have just been printed and there will be more information distributed shortly.

Ms. Kelly-Goodstein reported on the Second Annual Caring for New Jersey’s Children conference. Over 180 registration forms have been received (almost triple the enrollment of last year). Nearly a third of the participants are school nurses. The Department is approved as a provider of continuing education for school nurses. School nurses, paramedics and emergency medical technicians will be receiving 4.5 continuing education credits. As mentioned early, Dr. Leva will not be able to present the lecture on pain management this afternoon. Mr. Jesus Cepero agreed to present the material this afternoon. The federal grant will cover the cost of the conference, so the \$15.00 registration fee will be refunded to each participant. The giveaway items include bicycle helmets and EMSC mugs. Plans will be underway soon for the Third Annual conference.

The feedback received from the targeted issue grant application to fund the emergency department pediatric critical care registry (PCCR), was discussed. Of the 30 grant applications received, only eight were recommended for funding. A new focus for this round of grant applications is the reduction of medical errors, child safety, inner city healthcare, and injury prevention. Primarily, we need to narrow the focus for the next application (i.e.; using a specific severity scoring system for inclusion, focusing on the seriously ill children and including the trauma patients later, etc.), and to explain in more detail the implementation of the PCCR. Now that the regulations have been adopted requiring the PCCR, that will strengthen the application as well. The model we develop should be reproducible nationally. Additionally, we have been encouraged to utilize the expertise of the NEDARC staff for technical review. Doctors Brennan and Sacchetti will be working with Ms. Kelly-Goodstein on the revisions over the next several months.

June 3-5, 2001 is the national grantee meeting in Vienna, Virginia. Ms. Way, Ms. Ferolito and Ms. Kelly-Goodstein will be attending the three-day conference. Additionally, Dr. Brennan is hoping to join us on Monday, June 4, for the workshops on grants. Information about the meeting will be shared with the EMSC Advisory Council members at our July 31, 2001 meeting.

Old Business:

The amendments to the advanced life support standing orders and radio failure protocols discussed at the March 27th meeting have not yet been done. Ms. Kelly-Goodstein will prepare the documents and forward to the members as soon as possible.

New Business:

The discussion of emergency department physician education requirements was tabled to the July 31, 2001 meeting.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Attachments:

- Amended page one of March 27, 2001 minutes
- Ms. Stephanie Freitag's CPR proposal
- Proposed by-laws (with amendments)
- Agilent Technologies press release regarding AED use on pediatric patients
- HHS Fact Sheet on privacy of patient's health information
- N.J.A.C. 8:43G-12.3 Emergency department staff qualifications
- Map and directions for July 31, 2001 meeting

2001 Meeting Schedule

July 31, 2001 – 10:00 am – LOCATION CHANGE – SEE ATTACHED!

Health & Agriculture Building - Auditorium
John Fitch Plaza, Market & New Warren Streets, Trenton
September 25, 2001 – 10 am
November 27, 2001 – 10 am